

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Minutes of the Meeting Under s. 13.10

May 5, 2003

Co-chair Darling presided and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Senators Darling, Welch, Fitzgerald, Lazich, Roessler, Kanavas, Robson, Moore
Representatives Kaufert, Huebsch, Ward, Meyer, Stone, Rhoades, Coggs, Schooff
Absent: None

[Secretary's Note: The Senate Majority Leader designated Senators Roessler and Robson to take the places of Senators Harsdorf and Decker, respectively.]

I. Ethics Board

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve a one-time supplement of \$40,000 GPR in 2002-03 to the appropriation under s. 20.521(1)(a) from the Committee's s. 20.865(4)(a) supplemental appropriation to fund additional investigation costs related to possible violations of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

II-A. Department of Veterans Affairs

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve the transfer of \$70,200 SEG in 2002-03 from the agency's subsistence grants appropriation [s. 20.495(2)(vm)] to its military honors funerals appropriation [s. 20.485(2)(q)] to support additional reimbursement grants to local veterans service organizations for military honors funerals in 2002-03.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

II-B. Department of Veterans Affairs

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve the transfer of \$51,200 SEG in 2002-03 from the agency's subsistence grants appropriation [s. 20.485(2)(vm)] to its retraining grant appropriation [s. 20.485(2)(tj)] to support additional educational retraining grants for eligible veterans.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

III. Department of Health and Family Services

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve the Department's plan to reallocate GPR state operations funding reductions under 2001 Wisconsin Act 109.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

Secretary's Note: The reallocations approved in the motion are \$509,800 GPR from the appropriation that supports the Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center [s. 20.435(2)(bm)] and \$70,000 GPR from the appropriation that supports the Wisconsin Resource Center [s. 20.435(2)(b)] to the appropriation that supports the state mental health institutes [s. 20.435(2)(a)] in 2002-03. In addition, delete 3.05 GPR FTE positions under s. 20.435(2)(bm) in 2002-03.

IV. Department of Health and Family Services

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to transfer \$284,200 GPR from s. 20.435(4)(e) [disease aids] to s. 20.435(2)(bj) [competency examinations and conditional and supervised release services] to fund projected costs of community release services in 2002-03. In addition, transfer \$121,100 from the proceeds of the land sale of the Troy Gardens property at Mendota Mental Health Institute that occurred in December, 2001, to s. 20.435(2)(bj) for the same purpose.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

Secretary's Note: The \$121,100 GPR is from the public land sales reserve account of the Committee's supplemental appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(a).

V. Department of Health and Family Services

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve the request to expend up to \$907,200 FED in 2002-03 in income augmentation funds to support incentive payments to counties to assist the state in claiming medical assistance matching funds for county administrative costs relating to the elderly and adults that receive mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse treatment services. The incentive payments are to equal 50% of the revenue claimed through June 30, 2003, up to \$907,200. Direct DHFS to lapse any remaining funds on June 30, 2003, to the general fund.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

VI. Department of Workforce Development

Moved by Representative Stone and seconded by Senator Darling to transfer funding of \$13,801,200 in 2002-03 to DWD's appropriation for federal block grant aids [s. 20.445(3)(md)] for cash benefits under the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program in Milwaukee County through June 30, 2003. Specify that the funding would be transferred from contingency funds as follows: (a) \$8,493,000 from the Joint Committee on Finance's federal program supplements appropriation [s. 20.865(4)(m)]; and (b) \$5,308,200 from the Committee's appropriation for public assistance programs supplementation [s. 20.865(4)(k)].

Ayes, 13; Noes, 3 (Schooff, Roessler, Robson)

Moved by Senator Moore and seconded by Representative Coggs to transfer additional funding of \$1,171,500 in 2002-03 to DWD's appropriation for federal block grant aids [s. 20.445(3)(md)] for cash benefits under the W-2 program in Milwaukee County through June 30, 2003. Specify that the funding would be transferred from contingency funds in the Joint Committee on Finance's federal program supplements appropriation [s. 20.865(4)(m)].

Ayes, 3; Noes, 13 (Darling, Welch, Fitzgerald, Lazich, Roessler, Kanavas, Robson, Kaufert, Huebsch, Ward, Meyer, Stone, Rhoades)

VII. Department of Natural Resources

Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to deny the request.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

Secretary's Note: The agency had requested \$869,300 SEG from the fish and wildlife account of the conservation fund to reimburse other DNR programs for staff time provided to operate chronic wasting disease testing centers during the fall deer hunts.

VIII. Department of Natural Resources

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Roessler to transfer \$93,000 SEG from the Fox River Navigational System Authority [s. 20.373(1)(r)] to DNR's Fox River management appropriation [s. 20.370(9)(ju)] to pay for the management and operation of the Fox River locks system.

Ayes, 16; Noes, 0

Secretary's Note: The action is a one-time transfer.

IX. Department of Natural Resources – Stewardship Program

A. Seven Railway Rights-of-Way. Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to approve the purchase of 1,443.27 acres, including 112.6 miles of railroad right-of-way in Kewaunee, Waupaca, Brown, Calumet, Washington, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Forest, Langlade, and Winnebago Counties from Canadian National and its subsidiaries for up to \$2,984,500 (\$2,945,000 for the land purchase and \$39,500 for closing costs). Specify that the Manawa to Scandinavia purchase not exceed \$1,610 per acre actually acquired by DNR from Canadian National.

Ayes, 14; Noes, 2 (Moore, Schooff)

B. Waukesha County Grants. Moved by Senator Lazich and seconded by Representative Kaufert to deny the request.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 1 (Moore)

Secretary's Note: DNR had requested \$283,200 from the urban rivers and urban greenspace grant components of the stewardship program to provide a grant to Waukesha County for assistance with the acquisition of 50 acres of improved land located in the Town of Mukwonago for the County's Spring Brook Creek Greenway Corridor and \$326,900 from the urban greenspace grant component to provide a grant to Waukesha County for assistance with the acquisition of 68 acres of land located in the Town of Genesee for the County's Retzer Nature Center.

C. Ice Age Trail and Chippewa Moraine Land Acquisition. Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to deny the request.

Ayes, 12; Noes, 4 (Decker, Moore, Coggs, Schooff)

Secretary's Note: DNR had requested approval to allocate \$803,500 from the land acquisition subprogram of the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 program to purchase 207.46 acres of land from the Wayward Beaver Lodge, LLC. for addition to both the Ice Age Trail and the Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area in Chippewa County.

D. Badger State Trail Project in Dane and Green Counties. Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Senator Moore to direct the Department of Natural Resources to re-submit the railing and decking improvements request in final form to the Committee after receiving approval from the Building Commission.

Ayes, 8; Noes, 8 (Welch, Fitzgerald, Roessler, Kanavas, Huebsch, Ward, Stone, Meyer)

Secretary's Note: The co-chairs set aside this item.

E. Catherine Wolter Wilderness Area Grant. Moved by Senator Darling and seconded by Representative Kaufert to deny the request.

Ayes, 12; Noes, 4 (Decker, Moore, Coggs, Schooff)

Secretary's Note: DNR had requested approval to provide a grant of \$1,823,900 from the land acquisition subprogram of the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 program to the Nature Conservancy to assist in retiring debt acquired from purchasing 2,189 acres for the Catherine Wolter Wilderness Area in Vilas County.

The co-chair made a unanimous consent request to receive two reports: (a) DOA report under s.16.50 on federally-funded positions approved July 1 to September 30, 2002; and (b) DOT report directed at the November 11, 2002 meeting under s.13.10 on modifying the manner in which the Department reimburses counties for equipment costs. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Daniel Caucutt, Secretary

Date: _____

Alberta Darling, Co-Chair

Date: _____

Jim Doyle, Governor

Date: _____